

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Michael J. SHEA

Dkt. No. EX-4C8

Serial No. **TBA**

Group: TBA

Filed: **December 8, 2000**

Examiner: TBA

For: **EXERCISE SYSTEM**

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December 8, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application
as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, before numbered line 2, insert

--This application is a continuation of Application No. 09/382,684, filed
August 25, 1999, which is a continuation of Application No. 08/842,113, filed
April 28, 1997, now U.S Patent No. 6,050,924.--

On page 12, lines 2-3, change "Application Serial No. 08/385,171, filed
February 7, 1995" to --U.S. Patent No. 5,947,869--.

On page 41, line 9, change "514" to --516--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-6, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims 7-38:

--7. An exercise system, comprising:

a plurality of exercise terminals; and

a computer connected to the exercise terminals via a communication link,

the computer including an interface usable to reserve exercise terminals for future use so that exercisers other than reserving exercisers are locked out from using reserved exercise terminals.

8. The exercise system according to claim 7, wherein reserved exercise terminals are responsive to predetermined inputs to permit use thereof by reserving exercisers.

9. The exercise system according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined inputs comprise keypad inputs.

10. The exercise system according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined inputs comprise card reader inputs.

11. The exercise system according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined inputs comprise passwords.

12. The exercise system according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined inputs comprise exerciser identifiers.

13. The exercise system according to claim 7, wherein the exercisers other than the reserving exercisers are locked out from using reserved exercise terminals for a predetermined period of time.

14. The exercise system according to claim 7, wherein the interface comprises a display showing reservable exercise terminals.

15. The exercise system according to claim 14, wherein the display displays the current use status of the exercise terminals.

16. The exercise system according to claim 15, wherein the current use status comprises time remaining in exercise programs for currently used exercise terminals.

17. The exercise system according to claim 14, wherein the display displays graphical representations of the exercise terminals.

18. The exercise system according to claim 7, wherein the interface is usable to reserve exercise terminals for use at particular times of day.

19. The exercise system according to claim 7, wherein the interface is usable to reserve particular exercise terminals for use when these terminals become available.

20. The exercise system according to claim 7, wherein the interface is usable to reserve the first available exercise terminal of a particular type for use.

21. The exercise system according to claim 7, wherein the computer generates notifications to reserving exercisers when reserved exercise terminals are available for their use.

22. The exercise system according to claim 21, wherein the notifications are communicated via exercise terminals currently used by reserving exercisers.

23. The exercise system according to claim 21, wherein the notifications are communicated via a paging system.

24. The exercise system according to claim 21, wherein the notifications are communicated via a speaker.

25. An exercise system comprising a plurality of exercise terminals, at least one exercise terminal including an interface usable to reserve exercise terminals for future use so that exercisers other than reserving exercisers are locked out from using reserved exercise terminals.

26. The exercise system according to claim 25, wherein reserved exercise terminals are responsive to predetermined input to permit use thereof by reserving exercisers.

27. The exercise system according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined inputs comprise keypad inputs.

28. The exercise system according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined inputs comprise card reader inputs.

29. The exercise system according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined inputs comprise passwords.

30. The exercise system according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined inputs comprise exerciser identifiers.

31. The exercise system according to claim 26, wherein exercisers other than reserving exercisers are locked out from using reserved exercise terminals for a predetermined period of time.

32. The exercise system according to claim 25, wherein the interface comprises a display showing reservable exercise terminals.

33. The exercise system according to claim 32, wherein the display displays the current use status of the exercise terminals.

34. The exercise system according to claim 33, wherein the current use status comprises time remaining in exercise programs for currently used exercise terminals.

35. The exercise system according to claim 25, wherein the interface displays graphical representations of the exercise terminals.

36. The exercise system according to claim 25, wherein the interface is usable to reserve exercise terminals for use at particular times of day.

37. The exercise system according to claim 25, wherein the interface is usable to reserve particular exercise terminals for use when these terminals become available.

38. The exercise system according to claim 25, wherein the interface is usable to reserve the first available exercise terminal of a particular type for use.--

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REMARKS

This application is a continuation of Application No. 09/382,684, filed August 25, 1999, which is a continuation of Application No. 08/842,113, filed April 28, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,050,924.

Prompt examination and favorable office action are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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